



GARDEN ALMANAC

**IHM Community
Garden Newsletter**

August 2020



Harvest season

We're well into August and the main harvest season is underway. The community garden plots have been carefully tended through the summer and now all that work is paying off. Weeds are the number one problem for gardeners; however, our gardeners have been very vigilant about keeping weeds under control all season.

Tomatoes are the number one garden vegetable crop that is planted across the country and the same holds true in our community garden. They are slow in ripening this year; it may be due to the heat wave we had when the tomatoes were first blossoming. Even though tomatoes thrive during warm summer days, excessive air temperatures can damage tomato flowers.

A wide range of crops are being grown by our gardeners in addition to tomatoes including: squash, both summer and winter types; a variety of sweet and hot peppers; cucumbers, pickling and salad types; onions; potatoes; sweet potatoes; beets; radishes; carrots; beans; okra; peanuts; taro; rhubarb; cantaloupe; watermelon; cabbage; broccoli; kale; cauliflower; swiss chard; Chinese cabbage; lettuce; turnips; and probably a few others I missed.

Due to the pandemic, no one was able to begin working in our flower garden until after June 1. With a lot of hard work, our flower garden volunteers were able to restore most of the garden. Much work remains, however. If you are interested in helping in the vegetable or flower garden, please contact me at rdluzen@ihmsisitors.org.

Bob

Bob Dluzen
Community Garden Coordinator



The sunflowers in Sister Loretta Schroeder's garden plot are providing nectar and pollen for our honeybees as well as a large array of wild bees.



This is the first growing season for our four elevated garden beds. The harvest has been bountiful thanks to the addition of onsite compost added to the soil.

They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit.

Amos 9:14

August normal temperatures 1980-present

Date	Normal high temp.	Normal low temp.
Aug. 1	83°F	64°F
2	83°F	64°F
3	83°F	64°F
4	83°F	64°F
5	83°F	64°F
6	82°F	64°F
7	82°F	64°F
8	82°F	64°F
9	82°F	63°F
10	82°F	63°F
11	82°F	63°F
12	82°F	63°F
13	82°F	63°F
14	82°F	63°F
15	82°F	63°F
16	82°F	63°F
17	82°F	63°F
18	81°F	63°F
19	81°F	63°F
20	81°F	63°F
21	81°F	62°F
22	81°F	62°F
23	81°F	62°F
24	81°F	62°F
25	81°F	62°F
26	80°F	62°F
27	80°F	61°F
28	80°F	61°F
29	80°F	61°F
30	80°F	61°F
31	79°F	60°F

August record temperatures 1874-present

Date	Record high	Year	Record low	Year
Aug. 1	97°F	2006	48°F	1971
2	99°F	1988	48°F	1976
3	96°F	1988	46°F	1976
4	98°F	1944	47°F	1894
5	96°F	1881	45°F	1972
6	104°F	1918	49°F	1971
7	100°F	1918	47°F	1903
8	99°F	2001	47°F	1989
9	96°F	1891	46°F	1884
10	98°F	1944	45°F	1972
11	99°F	1944	47°F	1967
12	99°F	1881	46°F	1967
13	96°F	1944	47°F	1967
14	99°F	1944	48°F	1964
15	97°F	1965	46°F	1979
16	95°F	1936	43°F	1979
17	100°F	1988	46°F	1981
18	95°F	1947	46°F	1981
19	95°F	1947	44°F	1977
20	96°F	1916	48°F	1977
21	100°F	1955	46°F	1876
22	101°F	1936	45°F	1923
23	96°F	1936	45°F	1875
24	95°F	1948	43°F	1971
25	98°F	1948	48°F	1942
26	96°F	1953	47°F	1984
27	98°F	1948	47°F	1915
28	97°F	1948	43°F	1986
29	96°F	1953	38°F	1982
30	97°F	1953	41°F	1976
31	97°F	1953	46°F	1935

August 2020 twilight

Date	Morning twilight	Evening twilight
Aug. 1	5:56 a.m.	9:22 p.m.
2	5:57 a.m.	9:21 p.m.
3	5:58 a.m.	9:20 p.m.
4	5:59 a.m.	9:18 p.m.
5	6:00 a.m.	9:17 p.m.
6	6:01 a.m.	9:15 p.m.
7	6:02 a.m.	9:14p.m.
8	6:03 a.m.	9:13 p.m.
9	6:05 a.m.	9:11 p.m.
10	6:06 a.m.	9:10 p.m.
11	6:07 a.m.	9:07 p.m.
12	6:08 a.m.	9:05 p.m.
13	6:09 a.m.	9:05 p.m.
14	6:10 a.m.	9:04 p.m.
15	6:11 a.m.	9:02 p.m.
16	6:12 a.m.	9:01 p.m.
17	6:14 a.m.	9:59 p.m.
18	6:15 a.m.	8:58 p.m.
19	6:16 a.m.	8:56 p.m.
20	6:17 a.m.	8:54 p.m.
21	6:18 a.m.	8:53 p.m.
22	6:20 a.m.	8:51 p.m.
23	6:21 a.m.	8:49 p.m.
24	6:22 a.m.	8:48 p.m.
25	6:23 a.m.	8:46 p.m.
26	6:24 a.m.	8:44 p.m.
27	6:25 a.m.	8:43 p.m.
28	6:26 a.m.	8:41 p.m.
29	6:27 a.m.	8:39 p.m.
30	6:28 a.m.	8:38 p.m.
31	6:30 a.m.	8:36 p.m.

August 2020 sunrise and sunset

Date	Sunrise EDT	Sunset EDT
Aug. 1	6:27 a.m.	8:51 p.m.
2	6:28 a.m.	8:50 p.m.
3	6:29 a.m.	8:48 p.m.
4	6:30 a.m.	8:47 p.m.
5	6:31 a.m.	8:46 p.m.
6	6:32 a.m.	8:45 p.m.
7	6:33 a.m.	8:43 p.m.
8	6:34 a.m.	8:42 p.m.
9	6:35 a.m.	8:41 p.m.
10	6:36 a.m.	8:39 p.m.
11	6:38 a.m.	8:38 p.m.
12	6:39 a.m.	8:37 p.m.
13	6:40 a.m.	8:35 p.m.
14	6:41 a.m.	8:34 p.m.
15	6:42 a.m.	8:32 p.m.
16	6:43 a.m.	8:31 p.m.
17	6:44 a.m.	8:29 p.m.
18	6:45 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
19	6:46 a.m.	8:26 p.m.
20	6:47 a.m.	8:25 p.m.
21	6:48 a.m.	8:23 p.m.
22	6:49 a.m.	8:22 p.m.
23	6:50 a.m.	8:20 p.m.
24	6:51 a.m.	8:19 p.m.
25	6:52 a.m.	8:17 p.m.
26	6:53 a.m.	8:15 p.m.
27	6:54 a.m.	8:14 p.m.
28	6:55 a.m.	8:12 p.m.
29	6:56 a.m.	8:11 p.m.
30	6:57 a.m.	8:09 p.m.
31	6:58 a.m.	8:07 p.m.

August precipitation records

Date	Greatest a.m.ount of rain	Year
Aug. 1	1.17 in.	1922
2	1.46 in.	1922
3	1.83 in.	1933
4	3.90 in.	1888
5	2.33 in.	1940
6	2.51 in.	1998
7	1.26 in.	1916
8	2.03 in.	1942
9	1.03 in.	1896
10	1.30 in.	1914
11	4.57 in.	2014
12	2.46 in.	2013
13	2.18 in.	1994
14	1.86 in.	1905
15	1.31 in.	1986
16	2.81 in.	1974
17	4.51 in.	1926
18	1.28 in.	2019
19	1.90 in.	1991
20	1.62 in.	2007
21	2.72 in.	1890
22	1.99 in.	1987
23	2.29 in.	1901
24	1.05 in.	1885
25	1.76 in.	1940
26	2.11 in.	1987
27	1.30 in.	1903
28	2.38 in.	1932
29	1.73 in.	1975
30	2.24 in.	1959
31	2.02 in.	1877

Gazebo available for your event

The gardens make a wonderful setting for our Gazebo. The primary purpose of our Gazebo is to provide gathering space for St. Mary Organic Farm activities and events that advance the educational and spiritual goals of the IHM Sisters. Other activities may be scheduled for the Gazebo if they fall within the guidelines described in the Gazebo Usage Policy.

There is no charge if your event or activity advances the educational and spiritual goals of the IHM Sisters. Free-will donations for the use of the Gazebo are welcome. To reserve the Gazebo, contact Events at 734-240-9871 or events@ihmsisters.org; Someone will be happy to assist you with your reservation.



August precipitation records

Normal monthly precipitation: 3 inches

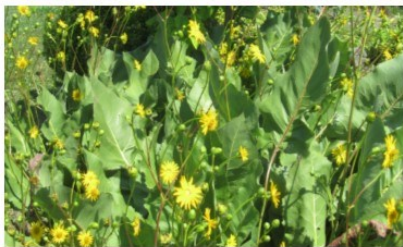
Wettest August: 8.33 inches in 1926

Driest August: .16 inches in 1894



Nature Explorers

Prairie dock



Prairie dock is an impressive native plant that is easy to spot once you've seen one in person. The plant is about three feet tall

and has large leaves and yellow flowers that grow on tall stems three to ten feet tall. The leaves, when crushed, have a turpentine odor that can be used to help identify it. The leaves remind you of rhubarb and grow upright with their flat surfaces facing east and west to capture the most sunlight for photosynthesis and to help conserve moisture. They have very large tap roots that grow 12 feet deep or more into the soil, allowing them to survive in hot, dry prairie areas during long periods of drought. If the tops are grazed by animals, the strong root is able to regrow a new plant very easily. Wild prairie dock is often found growing along roadways. The flowers provide nectar for pollinators like bees and butterflies, while the seeds are eaten by birds. Prairie dock can be seen growing at the IHM St. Mary Organic Farm Monarch Waystation.

From Pope Francis' Encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home*

"By the word of the Lord the heavens were made" (Ps 33:6). This tells us that the world came about as the result of a decision, not from chaos or chance, and this exalts it all the



more. The creating word expresses a free choice. The universe did not emerge as the result of arbitrary omnipotence, a show of force or a desire for self-assertion. Creation is of the order of love. God's love is the fundamental moving force in all created things: "For you love all things that exist, and detest none of the things that you have made; for you would not have made anything if you had hated it" (Wis 11:24). Every creature is thus the object of the Father's tenderness, who gives it its place in the world. Even the fleeting life of the least of beings is the object of his love, and in its few seconds of existence, God enfolds it with his affection. Saint Basil the Great described the Creator as "goodness without measure",⁴⁴ while Dante Alighieri spoke of "the love which moves the sun and the stars".⁴⁵ Consequently, we can ascend from created things "to the greatness of God and to his loving mercy".⁴⁶ [#77]

Considering a gift to St. Mary Organic Farm?

Donations are always appreciated and are tax-deductible. Your contribution will go toward local educational programs on gardening, healthy eating and lifestyle, environment protection, conservation and other programs that are part of our mission to do God's work by making our community a better place to live. They may also be used to purchase equipment and tools and to maintain garden facilities.


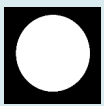
Please make your check payable to IHM Sisters and include St. Mary Organic Farm or SMOF in the memo line.

Safe, secure online giving is available for your convenience.



Phases of the moon

August and September 2020

	New Moon - Aug. 18
	First Quarter - Aug. 25
	Full Moon - Sept. 2
	Last Quarter - Sept. 10

IHM Garden Bee Journal: Aug. 8

By Judy Durfy

I drove out to inspect the remaining “queen right” hive and found the honey bee population to be very high. Hundreds of bees were bringing in lots of pollen to use to feed the bee larvae. Even though I had put on extra boxes for honey, the hive was completely filled to the brim! My guess is there is about 180 pounds of honey stored in the hive now, of which the bees will need more than half to make it through a normal winter.

There’s still the possibility of a drought before the bees cluster for winter, so I don’t want to pull the honey yet. I added one more box of drawn out comb so the bees won’t run out of room to store more honey as the goldenrod crop comes in over the next few weeks. I’ll have to get those extra boxes off the hive before the population drops significantly in preparation for winter, leaving few bees left to protect the upper boxes from the hive beetles or “robber bees” that could come along. The weather over the next few weeks is critical for the hive’s survivability.



Honeycomb filled all the way up to the inner cover

Gardening in the 1900s



Columbine
(*Aquilegia*).

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we offer *the cream* in Carnations, Geraniums, Cannas, etc. **CHRYSANTHEMUMS** are our specialty and of which we have the largest collection in America. *Descriptive catalogue for 1905 on application.*

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An ad from a 1905 edition of *Garden Magazine*, a nationally distributed horticulture periodical that was published in New York.

“I expand and live in the warm day like corn and melons.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

